

67,124-001
C02671

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell power plant system, comprising:
a fuel cell having a first electrode that receives a fuel including hydrogen and a second electrode that receives an oxidant from a supply and outputs exhaust;
an enthalpy recovery device having a first portion in fluid communication with the oxidant supply between the supply and the second electrode and a second portion in fluid communication with the exhaust of the second electrode; and
a controller that selectively controls the amount of fluid communication to at least one of the portions of the enthalpy recovery device based upon a selected condition; and
a heater for adding heat to the enthalpy recovery device.
2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the controller prevents the second portion from receiving the exhaust from the second electrode when the selected condition exists and wherein the selected condition comprises a temperature being below a selected threshold.

67,124-001
C02671

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the controller prevents the first portion from receiving the oxidant from the supply when the selected condition exists and wherein the selected condition is at least one of a temperature being below a selected threshold or a system start up operation.
4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, including an exhaust conduit that directs exhaust from the second electrode to the second portion, a bypass conduit that directs the exhaust away from the second portion and a valve associated with the conduits, the controller operating the valve to selectively allow the second electrode exhaust to flow to the second portion.
5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, including an oxidant supply conduit that directs oxidant from the supply through the first portion to the second electrode, a bypass conduit that directs the oxidant from the supply directly to the second electrode and a valve associated with the conduits, the controller operating the valve to selectively allow the oxidant from the supply to pass through the conduits to control oxidant flow through the first portion.
6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the controller selectively reduces the amount of fluid communication to at least one of the portions of the enthalpy recovery device based upon at least one of a temperature or a pressure within the system.

67,124-001
C02671

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, ~~including wherein the heater~~ comprises an oxidant heater and wherein the controller selectively controls the oxidant supply such that the oxidant is at least partially heated by the oxidant heater prior to being provided to the first portion.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, including a fuel processing device that has a heat exchanger through which the fuel passes prior to being provided to the first electrode and wherein the oxidant heater comprises the heat exchanger.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9~~1~~, wherein the heater heats coolant and wherein the heated coolant and inlet oxidant flow together within the enthalpy recovery device.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9~~1~~, wherein the heater comprises at least one resistive element that produces heat responsive to current supplied to the element, the heat from the resistive element warming at least one of the portions.

67,124-001
C02671

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9~~1~~, wherein the first and second portions of the enthalpy recovery device comprise a conductive material and the heater comprises at least one electrical connection between one side of the first portion and one side of the second portion, the electrical connection allowing current to pass through the first and second portions.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9~~1~~, including a cooler associated with the fuel cell that exhausts heated coolant and wherein the heater comprises at least one heater element associated with the enthalpy recovery device, the heater element receiving the heated coolant from the cooler.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, including an exhaust burner that processes exhaust from the first electrode and wherein an output from the exhaust burner is selectively supplied to the second portion of the enthalpy recovery device.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of operating an enthalpy recovery device in a fuel cell power plant where the enthalpy recovery device has a first portion in fluid communication with an oxidant supply to the fuel cell and a second portion that is in fluid communication with exhaust from the fuel cell, comprising:

selectively controlling an amount of fluid flow through at least one of the portions of the enthalpy recovery device based upon a selected operation condition; and
heating the enthalpy recovery device.

67,124-001
C02671

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the operation condition comprises temperature and including at least partially bypassing at least one of the portions of the enthalpy recovery device when the temperature is below a selected threshold.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, including completely bypassing at least one of the portions.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, including allowing moisture or liquid within either of the portions to freeze.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the selected operation condition is a start up of the fuel cell and including completely bypassing the first portion during the start up.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, including preheating oxidant from the oxidant supply before the oxidant is provided to the first portion.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Original) The method of claim 15, including heating the fuel cell exhaust and introducing the heated exhaust into the enthalpy recovery device with the oxidant.

67,124-001
C02671

23. (New) A method of operating an enthalpy recovery device in a fuel cell power plant where the enthalpy recovery device has a first portion and fluid communication with an oxidant supply to the fuel cell and a second portion that is in fluid communication with exhaust from the fuel cell, comprising:

selectively controlling an amount of fluid flow through at least one of the portions of the enthalpy recovery device for completing bypassing at least one of the portions of the enthalpy recovery device when a temperature is below a selected threshold; and

allowing moisture or liquid within at least one of the portions of the enthalpy recovery device to freeze.